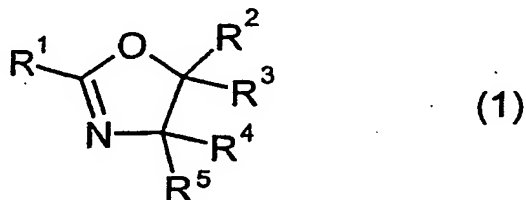


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.(Currently Amended) A method for the preparation of esters from a reaction mixture of an alcohol ~~[[alcohols]]~~ and an olefinically unsaturated carboxylic acid or reactive derivative thereof ~~[[acids]]~~, said method comprising ~~[[by]]~~ reacting ~~[[an]]~~ the alcohol with ~~[[an]]~~ the olefinically unsaturated carboxylic acid or ~~[[a]]~~ reactive derivative thereof, in the presence of from 1 ppm to 1% by weight, based on the weight of the reaction mixture, ~~comprising alcohol and olefinically unsaturated carboxylic acid/carboxylic acid derivative~~ of at least one oxazoline of the formula 1



in which R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵, independently of one another, are hydrogen or hydrocarbon radicals having from 1 to 12 carbon atoms, and R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ may be identical or different, being present.

2.(Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵, independently of one another, are hydrogen or methyl groups.

3.(Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 ~~and/or~~ 2, wherein

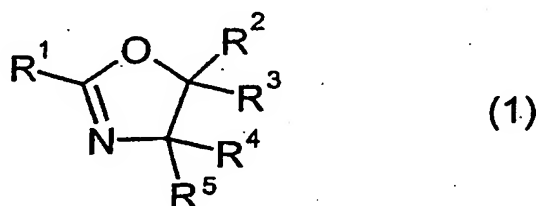
R¹ is methyl

R² and R³ are hydrogen

R⁴ and R⁵ are hydrogen or methyl.

4.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~as claimed in one or more of~~
~~claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the at least one oxazoline ~~oxazolines~~ of ~~[[the]]~~ formula 1
~~[[are]] is [[used]] present~~ in amounts of from 10 ppm to 0.5% by weight based on the
reaction mixture ~~comprising alcohol and carboxylic acid/carboxylic acid derivative.~~

5.(Currently Amended) A method for stabilizing a reaction between an alcohol
and an olefinically unsaturated carboxylic acid or reactive derivative thereof in a
reaction mixture in the presence of a catalyst, said method comprising carrying out
said reaction in the presence of a compound ~~The use of compounds~~ of ~~[[the]]~~
formula 1

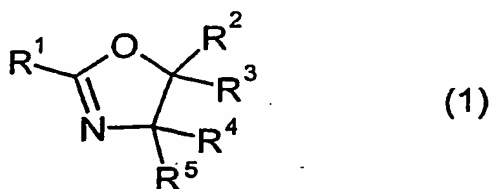


in which R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵, in which R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵, independently of one
another, are hydrogen or hydrocarbon radicals having from 1 to 12 carbon atoms,
and R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ may be identical or different, ~~as stabilizers in the reaction~~

~~between alcohols and olefinically unsaturated carboxylic acids or the reactive derivatives thereof, wherein said compound of formula (1) is present in an amount of from 1 ppm to 1% by weight, based on the weight of the reaction mixture comprising alcohol and carboxylic acid/carboxylic acid derivative, of the compound of the formula 1 being used.~~

6.(Currently Amended) A composition comprising

- A) an alcohol
- B) an olefinically unsaturated carboxylic acid or a reactive derivative thereof, the molar ratio A) : B) being from 1 : 0.2 to 1 : 15, and
- C) 1 ppm ~~[[at]]~~ to 1% by weight, based on the total weight of A) and B), of a compound of the formula 1



in which R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵, independently of one another, are hydrogen or hydrocarbon radicals having from 1 to 12 carbon atoms, and R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ may be identical or different.